

# THE LOOP

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St. James' Anglican Church Newsletter

January / February 2017

## Message From Your Wardens



### **Sunday January 29th Annual Vestry Meeting**

**Church Service at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall followed by Lunch and our Vestry Meeting for 2016**

Please set this date aside so we can have a large turnout of parishioners to review the Vestry Report, and vote on the installation of new members to Parish Council, budget items and any other recommendations put forward by Vestry.

If you are submitting a report to Vestry, please submit it to Nancy in our office by Saturday **January 7th**. This will give us plenty of time to have the report put together, audited and circulated in the parish prior to the Vestry meeting.



### **2017 Envelopes are available!**

Please pick up your new box of 2017 envelopes in the front foyer of the church. We still offer pre-authorized payment (PAP) for your offering. If you are interested in this method of payment, please contact Nancy in the office by email or phone.

**\*\*\*Any additional financial contributions that you are planning to give to St. James' must reach our Church Office no later than **December 27th**. This will allow us to process and deposit the funds in our accounts to enable you to receive credit for your donation for your 2016 tax year returns.**

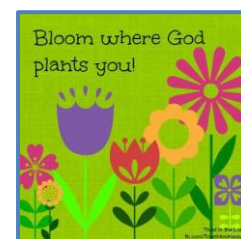
### **Parish Council 2017**

*"Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." --Martin Luther King*

Over the next few weeks, many parishioners will be approached to serve on Parish Council for 2017. There are several positions open - none of them require specific talents. They all require the desire to serve St. James' and devote some time to Parish affairs. If you feel that you are being called to be a part of this parochial team, please speak to Rev'd Meghan.

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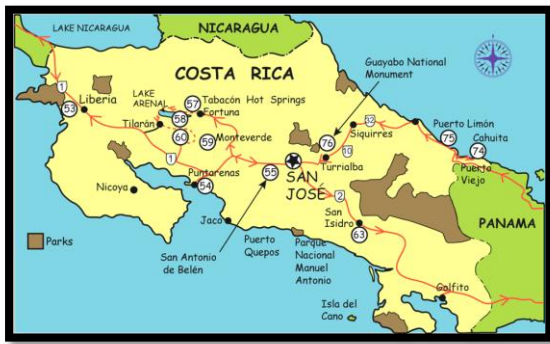


## Messy Church Pageant - December 8th

The families who attend Messy Church once a month recently acted out their version of The Nativity Story. Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted and a special thank you to Carolin French who played the piano and accompanied the participants and audience as they sang traditional Christmas carols.







## **Our Costa Rican Commitment**

- submitted by Beverley Lebell

Two years ago after going through a personal crisis, my husband, Andrew and I were looking for a retreat where I could spend a few weeks in solitude to regenerate. We chose the little fishing village of Quepos, in Costa Rica, a country we had come to love since our first trip there in 2007. We went there together and before Andrew left me to my task, we met a young Honduran resident who everyone called Chiki. She decided to take me under her wing to show me the "tico" (native) way of life.

Instead of remaining in the hotel I ended up staying with her two daughters in a two bedroom apartment for three weeks. Gone was any thought of meditation and solitude. Chiki gave up her room and the three girls took the other, no discussion, case closed. As I looked around I saw a small fridge whose door didn't close right, a gas stove top that was not working right and only glass shelves on the walls to put her plates and bowls, the little she had on. There was very little in the fridge and no fruits and vegetables. I noticed they mainly lived on beans and rice, and various flour tortillas and the like.

To survive the 35 degree heat, I went out and purchased a fan for the house, I knew she could make good use of it when I left. Then we went out and I bought groceries for the house, after all, she would take no money and it was the least I could do. We spent the three weeks together as much as possible. Her oldest daughter Ambar, 19 was going to be an unwed mother in 9 months; she was getting moral support from the father, but nothing else. The youngest daughter Victoria, 16 was introverted and didn't spend much time at home. It took a while, but after some one on one time we finally bonded. The two girls did not speak English but somehow we communicated enough to form a bond of trust.

I looked around the apartment and quickly realized it was much too small for the three girls and a baby. Chiki had told me her financial situation. On a salary of \$500 a month, she had to pay \$280 for rent, around \$50 for hydro, and \$25 for natural gas. The rest for everything else required for her and her daughters, sometimes very little food. Groceries in Costa Rica, especially meat, vegetables and fruit and as expensive or more than in Canada. I guess they ship most of the best things overseas, because what they had in the stores was not the quality I'm used to.



**Beverley outside of Chiki's apartment**

Andrew and I decided to help as much as possible so we partnered with the landlord to build an extra room on the large lanai on their 2nd floor apartment along with some needed furniture and kitchenware. We made a commitment to help this family to a better life and become more self-sufficient.

The last two years have seen us back twice. We have provided for the legal fees and application fees for Chiki and Ambar to become dual citizens of Honduras and Costa Rica so they can work and get some assistance, little as it is.

Most importantly, we became Godparents to a lovely Costa Rican boy named Aidan. Although not a church going family, I encouraged Ambar (the new mother) to go to church for baptism classes and prepare for her son's baptism. I also encourage a religious upbringing for Aidan, and tell them how the Lord has seen me through some very

dark times. I know, somehow, that it is doing well, but the language barrier gets in the way so I am taking Spanish lessons to help in our communication.



**Andrew and Beverley at Aiden's Baptism**

Though we have done a lot, it only scratches the surface. They are still living in extreme poverty, and jobs what they are, are very low paying and hard to get. We hope to buy a multi property so we can provide housing and a rental property for them to manage, with our help, and provide themselves with a decent place to live at little or no cost.



**Aiden's First Birthday**



**School where The LeBells donated medical supplies, dental hygiene supplies and soccer equipment.**



**Home with 4 apartments Andrew and Beverley are trying to buy**

Your prayers for the family and our mission would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Beverley and Andrew*

Costa Rica hosts many refugees, mainly from Colombia and Nicaragua. As a result of that and illegal immigration, an estimated 10–15% (400,000–600,000) of the Costa Rican population is made up of Nicaraguans.<sup>[87][88]</sup> Some Nicaraguans migrate for seasonal work opportunities and then return to their country. Costa Rica took in many refugees from a range of other Latin American countries fleeing civil wars and dictatorships during the 1970s and 1980s, notably from Chile and Argentina, as well as people from El Salvador who fled from guerrillas and government death squads. According to the World Bank, in 2010 about 489,200 immigrants lived in the country, mainly from Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize.





### **Nursing Home & Retirement Home Services**

– Our next service will be on **Sunday, February 19th**. We begin at 1:30pm at Woodingford Lodge, 2:15pm at Oxford Manor and 3:00pm at Secord Trails. Each service is 1/2 hr. in length. Volunteers are needed to help distribute song books to the residents.

**Messy Church - Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup>** are Messy Church nights. Messy Church is family oriented and provides a way to learn the stories of the bible in a non-traditional way. We begin our evening at 5:00 pm with snacks, followed by theme related crafts and games, a short time of reflection and then close the evening with a shared meal. There is no registration, no fee required. All are welcome. Rev'd Meghan would like to thank our dedicated volunteers for making Messy Church happen!

**Lunch Bunch** - "We are feeding over 100 children and adults each week. Thanks to all volunteers who help out in the kitchen and dining area and also on the buses. We couldn't do it without the wonderful volunteers! God Bless them all!" - Holly Lucas, Coordinator of Lunch Bunch  
And thank you Holly from the Parish, for all your efforts each and every week!

**Choir News** - It is time to rebuild St. James' choir in 2017. We have two excellent music leaders - Kristy and Jim - who are marvellous to work with. No experience needed! Just a desire to volunteer and sing! No rehearsals! Just appear on Sunday morning at 10:15 am and tell us that you are here for the choir! Don't want to process? No problem? We'll meet you in the choir chairs. Lots of robes to choose from. There's one waiting for you! No excuses! We need you!!!

Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are **PRICELESS!**

## **BAC NEWS**

### **Upcoming Communion Services and**

### **BAC Breakfasts Schedule**

#### **Morning Communion & Breakfast Meetings-**

**Sunday January 8th** - Guest Speaker - To Be Announced

**Sunday February 12th** - Guest Speaker Charlene Doak- Gebauer - speaking about her charity - Child Pornography Hurts

8 AM Morning Communion Service

8:35 AM – BAC Breakfast Meeting

### **St. James' Church**

invites you to its

## **Shrove Tuesday**



## **Pancake Supper**



**Pancakes, ham or sausage, dessert & beverage**

St. James' Church is located at the corner of Oxford & Francis Streets, Ingersoll

**Tuesday February 28th**

**Continuous from 5 to 7 pm .... No waiting!**

**Adults \$ 10    Children \$ 5  
5 and under Free**

### **Volunteers Needed for Sunday**

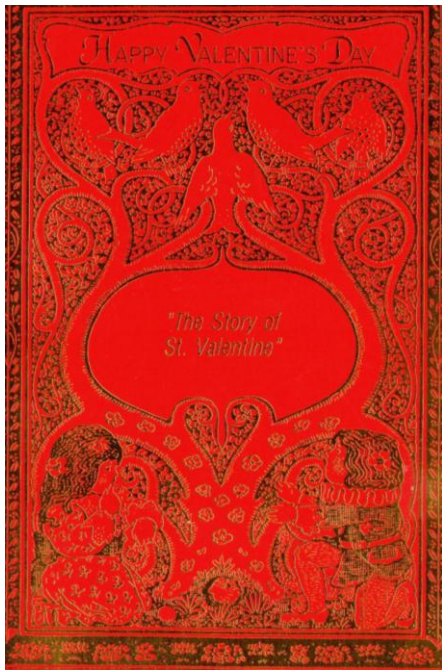


#### **Hospitality:**

Please consider volunteering for Sunday Hospitality on one of the following dates in 2017: these are the first and fifth Sundays in the month - January 29, February 5, March 5, April 2 and 30, May 7, June 4

Who can volunteer? How about a family, perhaps a couple, anyone! Never done it before? Help is available and you can call me to answer any questions you may have before committing - Rosemarie at 226-456-0617 . So, check your calendar and sign up. The sheet is on the hall bulletin board.

## A Valentine's Greeting from Inez



*The fourteenth day of February  
celebrates the feast  
Of a holy man named Valentine  
who was a Christian priest.  
He shared his faith with others  
in the pagan land of Rome  
Until the day a group of soldiers  
took him from his home.  
He was jailed and put to death  
at the pagan king's command  
For performing Christian marriages  
the king had ordered banned.  
But before he died, he wrote to each  
young couple he had wed,  
And contained in every letter  
were these last words that he said:  
"Grieve not for me—instead rejoice  
that you are man and wife,  
For love's a priceless treasure  
that's more precious still than life."  
And since then, Valentines are sent  
upon that day each year  
As a sign of love and caring  
to the one whom you hold dear.*

*Because you're so special,  
This Valentine brings  
A heart full of wishes  
For lots of nice things!*

*Happiness Always*

## Anglican Church Women News

### **Bake Sale Update**

(Announcement that appeared in the Church Bulletin on Dec. 11th)

*ACW thanks ...wow, what a Saturday we had for the Needlecraft and Bake Sale! Even with the rain, we had a good crowd from the moment we opened the doors. We had just the right amount of baked goods for sale on Saturday and after Sunday service, with just a few leftovers which will appear with coffee in the weekly to come (Don't worry, they're in the freezer). ACW would like to thank our donor bakers, everybody who helped on both Friday afternoon and Saturday, and the many familiar faces that came by and stocked up on holiday treats. A special word of thanks to Gladys Mott, the kitchen crew and the servers for the tasty lunch. The preliminary total from the baking, lunch and calendar sales is \$1300. The Needlecraft Group will share their news separately, but we'd like to thank them - and Shelley Riddick and Sheila Fleming - for their hard work in making the Parish Hall look so attractive and welcoming.*

### **ACW Meeting Schedule**

**January** – Tuesday the 3rd in the Parish Hall at 10:30 am

**February** – Tuesday the 7th in the Parish Hall at 10:30 am

**All women of the parish are encouraged and invited to attend any of the ACW events and meetings.**

### **OUR UPCOMING FUNDRAISER**

 *Happy  
Valentine's Day*

**VALENTINE'S DAY  
LUNCHEON**

**Friday February 10th  
11 AM to 1:00 PM**

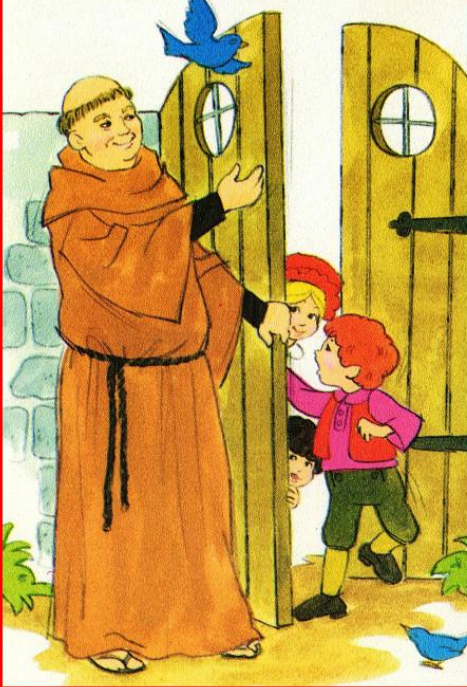




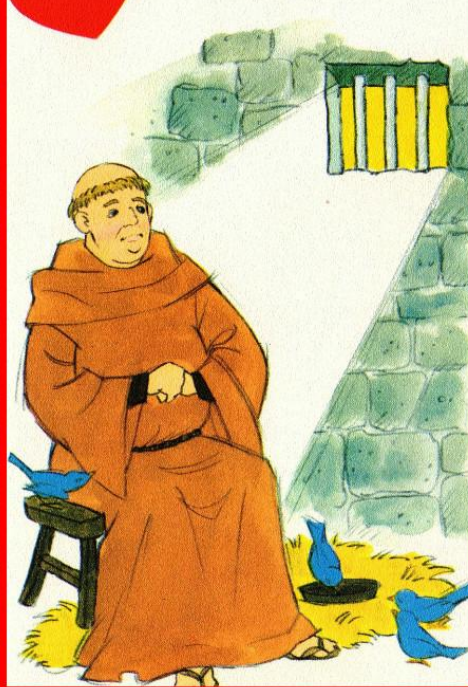
Thanks to Inez Fishwick for passing on this lovely card!

Many years ago there was a garden far away- A lovely place where all the happy children came to play...

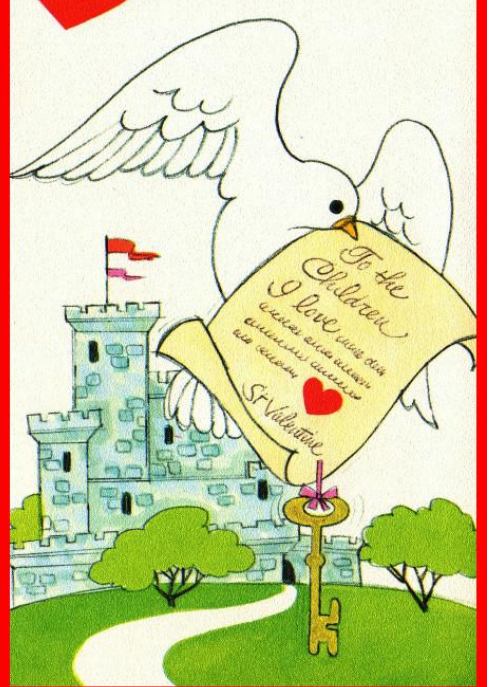
It was owned by a priest named Valentine Who would leave the gates ajar As a welcome to his little friends Who came from near and far...



Then - one day without a warning The old king's unkind decree Imprisoned good St. Valentine Unexpectedly...



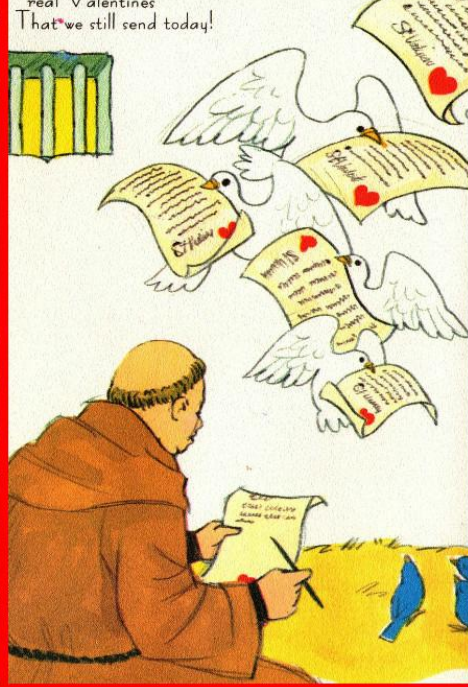
He could not forget the children So he sent a snow white dove To take a note, which he addressed To the children that I love...



With the note he sent along his key So the children could go on Playing in the garden All the days that he was gone...



The faithful priest sent many notes As time went on its way... And they were the first real Valentines That we still send today!



This story's a special favorite And Valentine's Day is, too So they both have lots in common With someone special like YOU!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!  
(Hope you enjoyed the story!)



## Needlecraft News

- submitted by Margaret Burford

The Needle Craft Group of St. James' wishes to thank St. James' talented people who contributed their works of art for our Handcraft sale on December 3rd.

To the parish family members, Marilyn Atkinson, Eleanor Wardrop, and Wilson McBeath who helped set up, work at the sale, and/or disassemble the displays huge appreciation goes to you.

No words can express the Group's appreciation to Gladys Mott for organizing and providing the delicious lunch. Janet Murphy and Andrea Cryderman worked in the kitchen alongside Gladys and Denise Aube, Shelley Riddick, Donna Hunter, and Pam Petrie served.

As always Art Kelley helped. Sheila Fleming and Shelley Riddick provided their decorating talents. The Group appreciates all your hard work.

Thank you to the members of the Needle Craft Group for all their hard work and the beautiful crafts they donated for the sale. We are still selling articles and at this time the Group has raised over \$1400.00 for church projects. Over \$400.00 was presented to the BAC from the sale of Wilson's wood craft talents. All of your help is greatly appreciated.



## Vision Implementation

### Committee Update

submitted by Veronica Jackson

The committee recently met and Mike Watson was happy to announce that the land survey of St. James' property was recently completed. The Woodstock firm Benedict Raithby Inc. has provided the church with very detailed topographic plans of our property. These are essential to have as we move forward into 2017 and look at various ways and means of utilizing and developing church property.

At this point, committee members have been in touch with Diocesan officials in London, and Town of Ingersoll officials as we explore all avenues of development. It is the committee's intention to meet several times in the coming months and we will keep the parish abreast of any new information. Thank you in advance for your support. Also we would like to acknowledge our thanks to ACW who have recently made a monetary contribution to assist with the cost of the survey.



## Cheerful Givers



Thanks to all who gave gifts of time, money and items to :

- our Food Bank Drive / White Gift Sunday
- our annual Turkey Supper
- our Christmas Operation Shoebox campaign
- our Inter Church Kettle Drive
- our collection for Monica's Place
- our Memory Ball Christmas Tree
- our Altar Guild's Christmas Flowers
- our Coffee Hour assistants



## Recent Happenings

Deaths : George Blancher





# 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 The Naming of Jesus (Epiphany)</b> <b>Holy Eucharist and Sunday School</b> The Rev'd Paul Walmsley preaching	2	<b>3 10:30 am Women of the Anglican Church Meeting</b> <b>1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>4 10:00 am - Eucharist</b>	5	6	<b>7 Vestry reports due</b>
<b>8 Epiphany 1</b> <b>8:00 am – Holy Eucharist followed by BAC Breakfast</b> <b>10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Sunday School</b>	<b>9 1:30 pm – Healing Study &amp; Prayer Group at Oxford Manor</b>  <b>7:30 pm – Parish Council Meeting - Budget</b>	<b>10 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>11 10:00 am – Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am – Lunch Bunch</b> <b>11:30 am - Service at Woodingford Lodge</b> <b>1:30 pm – Oxford Manor Bible Study &amp; Eucharist</b> <b>3:00 pm – Service at Secord Trails</b>	<b>12 5:00 pm – Messy Church</b> 	13	14
<b>15 Epiphany 2</b> <b>10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Sunday School with The Soulmates</b> <b>Pot Luck Lunch</b>	16	<b>17 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>18 10:00 am – Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am – Lunch Bunch</b> <b>7:00 pm – Deanery Council Meeting - Princeton at St. Paul's</b> <b>8:00 pm – Soulmates Practice</b>	19	20	21
<b>22 Epiphany 3</b> <b>10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Sunday School</b>	23	<b>24 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>25 10:00 am – Eucharist</b>  <b>11:00 am – Lunch Bunch</b>	26	27	28
<b>29 Epiphany 4</b> <b>10:30 am - Vestry - Morning Prayer and Sunday School</b>	30	<b>31 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group</b>				



# FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>10:00 am - Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am - Lunch Bunch</b>	2	3	4
<b>5 Epiphany 5</b> <b>10:30 am - Holy Eucharist and Sunday School</b>	6	<b>7</b> <b>10:30 am - Women of the Anglican Church Meeting</b> <b>1:30 pm - Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>8</b> <b>10:00 am - Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am - Lunch Bunch</b> <b>11:30 am - Service at Woodingford Lodge</b> <b>1:30 pm - Oxford Manor Bible Study &amp; Eucharist</b> <b>3:00 pm - Service at Secord Trails</b>	<b>9</b> <b>5:00 pm - Messy Church</b> 	<b>10</b> <b>ACW Valentine Luncheon</b> <b>11 AM - 1 PM</b>	11
<b>12 Epiphany 6</b> <b>8:00 am - Holy Eucharist followed By BAC Breakfast</b> <b>10:30 am - Holy Eucharist and Sunday School</b>	<b>13</b> <b>1:30 pm - Healing Study &amp; Prayer Group at Oxford Manor</b>	<b>14</b> <b>1:30 pm - Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>15</b> <b>10:00 am - Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am - Lunch Bunch</b>	16	17	18
<b>19 Epiphany 7</b> <b>10:30 am - Holy Eucharist and Sunday School with The Soulmates Pot Luck Lunch</b> <b>1:30 pm - Nursing Home Services - Woodingford, Oxford Manor and Secord Trails</b>	20	<b>21</b> <b>1:30 pm - Needlecraft Group</b>	<b>22</b> <b>10:00 am - Eucharist</b> <b>11:00 am - Lunch Bunch</b> <b>7:00 pm - Advent Bible Study</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Loop Deadline for Mar/ April Loop</b>	24	25
<b>26 Last Sunday after Epiphany</b> <b>9:00 am - Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>27</b> <b>7:30 pm - Parish Council Meeting</b>	<b>28</b> <b>1:30 pm - Needlecraft Group</b> <b>5:00 pm - BAC Pancake Supper</b>	<b>1 March</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	2	<b>3</b> <b>World Day of Prayer</b>	4